

ABSTRACT

A quick connect fiber optic connector assembly for testing and communication that uses a modified ferrule having a reservoir formed into its tip for holding optic transmitting gel or oil. A cleaved optical fiber may be held concentrically within the ferrule for alignment with a receiver or optical device. The gel or oil in the reservoir alleviates the need for a perfect cleave of the fiber and allows for transmission of the optic signal. If necessary, the pressure foot of the connector assembly may be rotated to minimize transmission losses. When the transmission signal is optimized, the fiber may be tested or used for communications. In another embodiment of the invention, a connector assembly includes a removable cartridge housing optical coupling compound. As a bare fiber is passed into the connector it picks up a small quantity of coupling compound and is then interconnected to an optical patch cable.